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Approved For Release 2005/06/07 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000200090007-7

DD/S 72-1746

1 MAY 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director-Comptroller  
General Counsel  
Deputy Director for Intelligence  
Deputy Director for Plans  
Deputy Director for Science and Technology  
Deputy to the Director, Intelligence Community

SUBJECT : Delegations of Authority to Classify and Declassify Under  
the Provisions of Executive Order 11652

1. As you know Executive Order 11652 becomes effective 1 June 1972 and several actions must be completed before that date if we are to be in compliance with the Order.

2. Despite the fact that we have not yet received the final version of the implementing instructions from the White House we are expected to submit our internal implementing regulation to the White House for review before 15 May and have it published and distributed in the Agency before 1 June. If we are going to meet these very tight deadlines in the absence of additional implementing guidance we are going to have to adapt our present classification control system to accommodate the new requirements acknowledging imperfections. The General Counsel is preparing a new draft Headquarters Regulation with these factors in mind.

3. E.O. 11652 also requires that the Director designate a representative of the Agency as a member of an Interagency Classification Review Committee to assist the National Security Council in monitoring the implementation of the Order. The Director is also required to designate a senior member of his staff to chair an internal Agency committee to ensure compliance within the Agency. I am preparing a separate memorandum for your consideration of a suggestion for satisfying these requirements.

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Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification


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4. A third action required in preparation for the implementation of E. O. 11652 is the delegation of authority to classify Top Secret to certain Agency officials. Section 2 of the Executive Order says: "The authority to originally classify information or material under this order shall be restricted solely to those offices within the executive branch which are concerned with matters of national security, and shall be limited to the minimum number absolutely required for efficient administration." The order grants authority to classify Top Secret to the Director and to such of his senior principal deputies as he may designate in writing; and to such heads and senior principal deputies and assistants of major elements of the Agency as the Director may designate in writing.

5. If we are going to be prepared to implement E. O. 11652 when it becomes effective, the delegations of authority will have to have been accomplished by 1 June. If you will furnish me a list of officials by position to whom you feel the authority to classify Top Secret must be delegated, I will arrange for its compilation into an Agency list for the Director's signature. If I have your lists by 9 May, there will be ample time to arrange for the issuance. As a point of departure, a list of officials meeting the definition in the E. O. is attached.



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 John W. Coffey  
Deputy Director  
for Support

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Attachment

cc: Director of Security

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